CIDAC
Centro de Documentação
TL3619

ASIAN CENTER
198 BROADWAY ROOM 302
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10038

September 17, 1980

Dear friends,

The East Timor National Strategy Day and International Conference will be taking place very soon! We urge you to come to learn about East Timor and what you can do about the enormous suffering of the people there.

As the Indonesian military occupies East Timor for a fifth year, there seems no end to the suffering of the East Timorese people. Already a third to a half of the population has died as a result of arbitrary killings, bombings, starvation and disease. Tens of thousands of deaths may follow if the Indonesians resume their "pacification" programs using chemical weapons and napalm. Very recent reports from East Timorese refugees indicate that the Indonesians are prepared to do so. After a major attack on the capital by independence fighters three months ago, increased ships, troops and tanks have arrived in the country. Political repression of the East Timorese people was stepped up. We must work for more access to East Timor by independent international observers. We must also work to reunite East Timorese families who are separated in East Timor and Portugal or Australia.

And we must never forget the U.S. role in this tragedy! The U.S. supplied 90% of the arms used by the Indonesian military in the invasion of East Timor and has actually increased its arms supplies to Indonesia. At the U.N., the U.S. continously supports the Indonesian position; we must prevent this from happening this year and in future years.

Nearly all the internationally-known researchers and activists will be at the Conference. Participants will be coming from Australia, Cape Verde, Great Britain, Mozambique, Nicaragua and Sweden. And, of course, there will be several East Timorese friends. American participants include Noam Chomsky, Admiral La Rocque(Ret.), specialists in the U.S. legislative process, as well as full-time workers on the East Timor issue like Arnold Kohen and Michael Chamberlain. Join us on October 19 and 20! East Timor deserves our attention. Our government did much to create the tragedy. And more important, you and I can, by working together, do much to reduce the enormous suffering that the East Timorese people are going through.

I look forward to being with you on October 19 and 20! Please fill in the enclosed registration form and send it back to us. Best regards,

Don Luce

Don Luce
for the Asian Center.

Tentative Schedules for the
National Strategy Day and International Conference on East Timor

National Strategy Day, October 19, 1980 at the U.N. Church Center, 777 U.N. Plaza

The National Strategy Day will be used to initiate national organizing through presentations and workshops. Tentative workshop topics are: Aid and the Politics of Food, Feminism and Third World Movements; Physical and Cultural Genocide; Family Reunification and Human Rights; U.N. Decolonization and U.S. Policy and U.S. Militarism and Arms Sales. We hope to get activists from across the U.S. to attend this part of the event in order to coordinate strategies with representatives of East Timor Solidarity Groups from other countries.

9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:30	General Announcements Presentation and Introduction to East Timor Chronology 15 minute presentations by Workshop Coordinators to provide bases for selection
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30	Participation in first workshop
2:30	Participation in second workshop
3:30	Coffee break
4:00	Reports from workshops with emphases on strategies proposed
4:30	Question and Answer
Evening	Social

The following have been invited to lead workshops on October 19: Mr. James Dunn, on leave from the Australian Legislative Research Service; Father Francisco Fernandes, East Timorese priest resident in Australia, Honorary Chairman of the East Timorese Refugee Commission(Portugal); Professors Shepherd and Mrs. Forman and Elizabeth Traube who have all done field work in East Timor; Professors Ben Anderson of Cornell and Richard Franke of Montclair State and Mr. Pat Walsh of Action for World Development in Melbourne, Australia.

International Conference, October 20, 1980 at the Community Church, 40 East 35th Street

The Conference will focus on the role of the international community in the tragedy of East Timor. It will be held at a time when East Timor will be discussed at the U.N.

10:00 a.m.	Welcoming remarks by Don Luce, Asian Center and Father Fernandes
10:30	Comments by delegates from the Cape Verde and Nicaraguan Missions to U.N.
10:45	"The Current Situation in East Timor," East Timorese Rep. to U.N.
11:15	Keynote address: "East Timor and the International Community"
12:00 p.m.	"East Timor and International Aid," James Dunn
12:45	Lunch
2:00	"East Timor and U.S. Responsibility," Noam Chomsky
2:40	"East Timor and U.S. Interests," Admiral La Rocque
3:30	Coffee break
4:00	"What the U.S. Congress Can Do," Bruce Cameron, Americans for Dem. Action
4:15	"What the International Community Can Do," Mats Helstrom, M.P. from Sweden
4:45	"East Timor: Some personal Reflections," Shirley Shackleton, widow of Australian journalist killed in East Timor
8:00	Concert for East Timor